

FDOT District 4 TSM&O Workshop Notes

June 13, 2012

Offices Represented (verify with attendee list)

Executive Leadership

Planning/EMO

Modal Development

Program Management

Design

Traffic Operations

Construction

Roadway Maintenance

Broward Operations

Palm Beach Operations

Treasure Coast Operations

D4 Consultants

D4 Consultants

Central Office TSM&O Team

Workshop Notes

1. Jim Wolfe welcomed the group and made some introductory remarks. Mark Plass then spoke more specifically about the workshop agenda, format, and expected outcomes.
2. Elizabeth Birriel gave the executive-level overview for TSM&O after self-introductions. NOTE: make sure to consider commuter services in travel demand management strategies.
3. Ingrid Birenbaum gave the national TSM&O overview presentation.
4. Ingrid Birenbaum introduced the soon-to-be-published FHWA TSM&O Cost-Benefit Desk Reference. NOTE: a copy of the draft guidebook should be placed on the TSM&O Workshop notes pages.
5. Ingrid Birenbaum and Melissa Ackert spoke about the February 2012 FHWA TSM&O workshop and recommendations. Previous work within the district has led to various TSM&O projects that will be constructed shortly (5 ATMS projects and TSM&O GC contract). Collaboration is a big focus within District 4.

6. Tara Jafarmadar (PE Trainee) talked about construction impact analysis tool – currently there is no method or tool to evaluate interaction between construction project and traffic on surrounding network. This tool has been developed by PE trainees and improved over time. Uses desktop GIS. Goal is to help project managers make better decision on lane closures and other work zone items. Has evolved to be more user-friendly and easier to use. Migrating to web GIS. Future tool capabilities to include identification of problematic segments (high crash locations, low LOS, high signal density).
7. Melissa Ackert spoke about the communications network protection and repair process. This is a big problem where cable cuts pose a significant threat to the traffic control network, resulting in system inoperability. This is a growing problem as the amount of fiber optic cable and ITS within the ATMS system grows. Looking for ways to support the protection and repair process with the goal of ultimately reducing the number of cuts and the duration of those that do occur. District 4 has developed a GIS tracking tool that tries to associate cable cuts with construction or permit projects so that repairs can be done more quickly and responsible parties asked to reimburse for repairs.
8. Workshop attendees broke into three groups. Dale Cody, Melissa Ackert, and Ingrid Birenbaum facilitated the TSM&O workshop which focused on:
 - a. CMM dimension regarding resource allocation – discussion to better understand how TSM&O funding can be secured. Also go back to February workshop notes on resource allocation in CMM discussions.
 - i. ACTION ITEMS: research TSM&O impact fee, look at ITS funding to include TSM&O funding sources, look at ITS device maintenance funding (RCI and other sources). Attend benefit/cost workshops to look at how to identify funding needs for ITS and other resources. Will continue to research ways to fund and will continue to communicate internally.
 - b. Construction Impact Analysis Tool – see #6 for background.
 - i. Previous tool version showed when projects started and ended, and the ability to visualize these times and overlaps was very useful. The web version of GIS does not support this time-lapse player. Team is looking at ways to show the information differently but accomplish the same result.
 - ii. Are there existing design tools that need to be integrated? A search function would be useful to minimize the number of places used to search for information.
 - iii. The tool needs to be vetted through the GIS team to integrate through District 4 processes. Trainees working on the tool should be part of these discussions.
 - iv. Need to be aware of problematic/sensitive segments to facilitate contractor coordination and public outreach.
 - v. Real-time information is very useful; fiscal year can quickly go out of date.
 - vi. Overlap of jobs can also lead to a single CEI for multiple projects. The tool helps identify the issues early and improves coordination.
 - vii. Tool should also load permit and local jobs.

- viii. Signal operations need to be maintained throughout projects, so signal issues should be identified as early as possible.
 - ix. ACTION ITEMS: Focus group to beta test the tool should be put into place to get input on additional capabilities that might be needed; should work through the GIS collaborative group.
- c. Communications Network Protection and Repair – how to improve process for FDOT notification, how to prevent the causes of cable cuts, and how can District 4 improve the process for getting the cuts repaired? How can District 4 maintain operations until the repair is made? What are other states/counties/cities/districts doing to address this issue?
 - i. Approach to dealing with cable cuts needs to be the same as dealing with utility breaks: do not let them sit unrepaired.
 - ii. Need to have definition of roles and work toward consistency of response.
 - iii. Assignment of liability is an unresolved issue. Approach should be to fix the problem and then litigate or see reimbursement later.
 - iv. Documentation is critical.
 - v. Education of how to properly install utilities is needed.
 - vi. Quality of as-builts is important.
 - vii. ACTION ITEMS: get with Broward County and maintaining agencies to discuss who is responsible for cable cuts. Also talk about interconnect. Need to understand ownership definitions. Look at doing performance bond or letter or credit with permittees. Establish special conditions to permits that include repair step processes and have maintaining agency sign off on the permit conditions. Define documentation requirements for reimbursement. Get quicker notification of cuts and identify responsibility as early as possible.
- 9. Elizabeth Birriel closed the workshop by outlining action items and speaking about the need to identify TSM&O focus areas and champions. Great information from workshop, and as these various tools are developed, there will be opportunities to share with the rest of the districts.